AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application.

1. (Currently Amended) An intervertebral implant comprising a central axis, an upper section, suitable for laying onto a ~~the~~ base plate of a vertebral body lying above, and a lower section suitable for laying onto a ~~the~~ cover plate of a vertebral body lying below, wherein:

the upper section has a ventral side area, a dorsal side area, two lateral side areas, a top apposition surface, ~~and~~ a bottom surface and a first projection extending from the bottom surface, the first projection including a first drill hole, the ventral side area including a first depression;

the lower section has a ventral side area, a dorsal side area, two lateral side areas, a bottom apposition surface, ~~and~~ a top surface and second and third projections extending from the top surface, the second and third projections including second and third drill holes, respectively, the ventral side area including a second depression; and

a frame shaped, central joint section located ~~the two sections are moveable in relation to each other via two joints arranged~~ between the upper and lower ~~two~~ sections so that the upper section is moveable with respect to the lower section, the central joint section including a central bore and first, second, third and fourth drill holes, the first projection extending from the bottom surface of the upper section being receivable within the central bore formed in the central joint section, the central joint section being receivable between the second and third projections extending from the top surface of the lower section so that a first axle is receivable in the first and second drill holes formed in the central joint section and the first drill hole formed in the first projection, a second axle is receivable in the third

drill hole formed in the central joint section and the second drill hole formed in the second projection and a third axle is receivable in the fourth drill hole formed in the central joint section and the third drill hole formed in the third projection; and ~~, wherein:~~

~~each of the joints has a swivel axle and the two swivel axles are arranged transversely or perpendicular to each other;~~

~~the two joints comprise an upper joint element connected with the upper section, a central joint element, and a lower joint element connected with the lower section;~~

~~the central joint section is connected with the lower joint section by means of at least one axle coaxial to the swivel axle and rotating around the swivel axle and with the upper joint section by means of at least one axle coaxial to the swivel axle and rotating around the swivel axle;~~

an insert ~~a means is provided that is suitable~~ for ~~causing~~ temporary blocking movement of the upper and lower ~~of the mobility of the two~~ sections ~~around the joint, whereby that the means comprises an~~ the insert including ~~with~~ a lower end and an upper end, the upper end being receivable in the first ~~and a~~ depression, the lower end being receivable in the second depression ~~in the surfaces at each of the two sections, which are open on the ventral side areas, and~~

~~that the insert with its ends can be inserted into each of the depressions~~.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Canceled)

4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently Amended) The intervertebral implant according to claim 1, wherein the insert maintains the upper and lower ~~means keeps the two~~ sections, measured at their ventral side areas, at a fixed distance from each other.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Canceled)

8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently Amended) The intervertebral implant according to claim 1, wherein the first and second depressions are dovetail guides and the upper and lower ends on the insert are arranged complementary to the~~se~~ dovetail guides.

10. (Previously Presented) The intervertebral implant according to claim 9, wherein the dovetail guides are tapered from the ventral side areas towards the dorsal side areas.

11. (Canceled)

12. (Currently Amended) The intervertebral implant according to claim 1, wherein the insert can be attached to one of the upper and lower ~~two~~ sections by ~~means of~~ a screw ~~in a way that can be released~~.

13. (Currently Amended) The intervertebral implant according to claim 1, wherein the upper and the lower sections each comprise[[s]] at least two drill holes running through from the ventral side areas to the apposition surfaces with longitudinal axes for receiving bone fixation devices.

14. (Previously Presented) The intervertebral implant according to claim 13, wherein the longitudinal axes of the drill holes make an angle γ with the central axis.

15. (Previously Presented) The intervertebral implant according to claim 14, wherein the angle γ lies in a range between 20 degrees and 65 degrees.

16. (Previously Presented) The intervertebral implant according to claim 13, wherein the longitudinal axes of the drill holes as seen from the ventral side areas diverge from the inner surfaces against the apposition surfaces.

17. (Previously Presented) The intervertebral implant according to claim 13, wherein the drill holes are conically tapered towards the apposition surfaces.

18. (Previously Presented) The intervertebral implant according to claim 13, wherein the drill holes have an internal thread.

19. (Canceled)

20. (Canceled)